

Motion to file the Loss of Right of Parenthood and to permanently remove the Baha'i Administrative Rights of ANTONIO LIM TOLEDO on the Grounds of Incest Rape

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25 December 2018

Universal House of Justice;

**National Spiritual Assembly
Baha'i Community of the Philippines**

Dearly Beloved Friends:

The first time I wrote the Universal House of Justice and the National Spiritual Assembly (NSA) for guidance on this particular case was on 4 June 2014. I am now formally coming forward with my real name: I, **Joan Andrea S. Toledo**, a Baha'i of good standing from the Philippines, am bahai.lady.19@gmail.com. Attached herewith is the medico-legal examination report as conducted by the Philippine National Police (PNP) concluding that I was repeatedly raped as a child, despite the fact that my only clear memory is the incest rape that took place when I was already in university.

Way back 2007, I had a friend from the Debate Society of the University of the Philippines Diliman who challenged me to tell my mother, and to report to authorities about my father raping me. For many years, my mother begged me not to go to PNP for medico-legal for as long as she was alive. She protected her husband and consistently lied for him till the day she died. 10 years, 9 months, and 27 days after I was first encouraged by my friend to stand up for myself, I finally did. Took over a decade, but I finally did. I reported the rape and incest case to PNP. On June 24th, I filed the rape/incest report. And on June 26th, I finally underwent medico-legal examination. The PNP doctor/medico-legal officer explained that the healed lacerations found, and the severe form of hymenal scar indicates I was repeatedly raped as a child (before 13 years old). I reported only that I was raped at 17, because that's the only incident I remember. The doctor said the hymenal scars in child rape victims look very different from adult (physically sexually matured) rape victims. She also said it's quite common for extreme forms of trauma to be forgotten completely; but that the medical evidence stays forever, unless I undergo surgical reconstruction. I have been advised to prioritize getting therapy again to help me process this new information from the PNP medico-legal doctor.

He (Bahá'u'lláh) has indicated that under certain circumstances, the parents could be deprived of the right of parenthood as a consequence of their actions. The Universal House of Justice has the right to legislate on this matter. It has decided for the present that all cases should be referred to it in which the conduct or character of a parent appears to render him unworthy of having such parental rights as that of giving consent to marriage. Such questions could arise, for example, when a parent has committed incest, or when the child was conceived as a consequence of rape, and also when a parent consciously fails to protect the child from flagrant sexual abuse. (The Universal House of Justice, 1992, Violence and Sexual Abuse of Women and Children)

